



**GEOFFREY RIDDLE – DIAMOND  
JUBILEE –  
11 JUNE 2009 – DAR ES  
SALAAM**

At the other ‘end of the scale’, 11 June marked GEOFF’S 60 YEARS OF ORDINATION! Former students of Itaga Seminary and St. Mary’s in Tabora (where Geoff taught many moons ago) came together with students from Chang’ombe College of Education in Dar es Salaam (where he has weekly sessions nowadays) to celebrate with people of the

local Cathedral Parish and Magomeni Parish (where Geoff supplies on Sundays), MAfr MSOLA, and with friends from ecumenical circles in Dar es Salaam. Cardinal Polycarp Pengo was present and Bp Kilaini concelebrated with a good number of confreres and diocesan clergy.

The Cardinal (left) and Bp. Kilaini (above) expressed their admiration and thanks for all that Geoff had done, and Geoff gave colourful and witty anecdotes of the lessons he learned along the way: how to kill snakes, how to march the army way (he was chaplain to the Tabora Barracks for 7 years), etc. His many gifts and missionary engagements were said to be like the various facets of a diamond, radiating and sparkling with the Light refracted within, and manifesting itself in many colours. A diamond is incredibly durable not easily scarred; and industrial diamonds are used for cutting other durable materials! Such is the firmness of his faith! FOOTNOTE: Believe it or not, Geoff was not born with a perpetual beard and moustache! Some former St. Mary’s students produced a framed photo that revealed all that lies hidden!!!

